

The Throne

News and Services from Swem Library at The College of William & Mary • May 2011

Stress is when you wake up screaming and you realize you haven't fallen asleep yet -Author Unknown

During exam season, The Throne knows your thoughts turn to candy, games, and gift certificates. What better time to enjoy some freebies brought to you by Swem's dedicated and thoughtful staff?

Don't miss:

May 1st: Health Food Night

May 2nd: Coffee Night

May 3rd: Candy

May 4th: Dining Services surprise

May 5th: Gift card drawings

May 8th: Munchkins from Dunkin' Donuts

May 9th: Game night and herbal teas while relaxing in the massage chairs

And don't forget about our brain teasers every day during exams.

Gift cards to Barnes and Noble!!



Feeling Blue?

Ever wonder when that simple word-processing software, the blue book, arrived on campus? It was 1930, and their introduction caused quite a stir among students, if you can judge by letters to the *Flat Hat*. Student "X.Y.Z." criticized the "over-decorated front cover which has a particularly irritating appearance," while "Objector" accused the Men's Honor Council of benefiting financially from their sale. This "standard examination pad"—changed but little in the years since—is a reminder that not everything these days requires a login and password. BTW, the *Flat Hat* is now digitized for your edification and enjoyment as part of the W&M Digital Archive.

Bean There, Drank That

Coffie, kahve, or qahwah, it doesn't matter how you say it, as long as you can keep it in your system until that paper's due, right? Caffeine is not only our most popular drug; it's the only addictive psychoactive substance that's legally



available for purchase the world over. More than 85% of us use it on a daily basis! And while coffee is the drink of choice for many of us, have you ever stopped to consider the history of that tall iced white mocha?

700-1000 Coffee becomes known as an energy drink throughout the Arabian Peninsula

1453: Coffee is introduced to Constantinople by the Turks

1732: Johann Bach composes the "Coffee Cantata," which celebrates the delights of the beverage, then forbidden to women.

1870s: Most coffee is still roasted at home in a frying pan over a fire (warning: not dorm room safe!)

1950s: Coffee becomes the American middle class's beverage of choice; consumption approaches three cups per day

1971: First Starbucks opens in Seattle

2011: MEWS keeps you peppy through finals week

For more info, consult Mark Pendergrast, *Uncommon Grounds: The History of Coffee and How It Transformed Our World*, and Bennett Alan Weinberg and Bonnie Bealer, *The World of Caffeine: The Science and Culture of the World's Most Popular Drug*, both available at Swem.

PUZZLEMENT NO MORE

Perhaps it's a testament to your Throne editors' perverted sense of parody, but we received no winners to last issue's simulated authors series. What to do with that \$25 gift certificate? We've donated it for the drawing May 5. The answers are tucked behind this issue of The Throne.



Watch Your Belongings ... Just in case someone else is!

Please be mindful of your personal items or else they may get snatched by those not following the honor code. Also, remember in these tempting times: plagiarism is a violation of the honor code and just isn't worth it. If you're not sure what plagiarism is, ask the experts at the reference desk.

Do you have any suggestions for the editors of The Throne? Email us at throne@wm.edu.

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